

- 7 -

CLAIMS

1. A method of inserting a communications module into a wireless communication system comprising at least one control module and a plurality of first communications modules, wherein the system is adapted to transmit messages either directly or indirectly between modules, and wherein each said first communications module is adapted to receive a wireless message and transmit said message to a further first communications module or to a said control module, and is programmed with at least one respective address identifying modules with which it communicates messages directly when in a communication mode, the method comprising:-

(i) causing a second communications module, which is to be inserted into the system, to transmit a plurality of first messages in a set up mode, wherein at least two said first messages are transmitted at different power levels and contain data representing said power levels;

(ii) causing said second communications module to be installed to communicate directly, when in said communication mode, with at least one said communications module which correctly received a said first message.

2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of causing said second communications module to be installed to communicate directly, when in said communication mode, with at least two said communications modules which correctly received a said first message.

3. A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of causing said second communications module to communicate directly with the pair of first communications modules which directly received a said first message most reliably.

-8-

4. A method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of allocating points to each said first message received by said first communications modules, wherein first messages received at lower power levels are allocated larger numbers of points, and said second communications module is caused to communicate directly, when in said communication mode, with the pair of modules allocated the largest total number of points for first messages received from said second communications module.

5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said second communications module is caused to be installed by means of a second message, from at least one said control module updating the address of a said first module which correctly received a said first message.

6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of causing said second module to communicate directly with the first communications module which correctly received a said first message transmitted at lowest power level.

7. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of causing said second communications module to communicate with the first communications module which correctly received a said first signal at the largest number of different power levels.

8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first messages may be transmitted at at least three different power levels.

9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of setting the power level of transmission from said second communications module in said communication mode to a predetermined first communications

-9-

module in response to the power level of a said first message received by said predetermined first communications module.

10. A method of inserting a communications module into a wireless communication system comprising at least one control module and a plurality of first communications modules, wherein the system is adapted to transmit messages either directly or indirectly between modules, and wherein each said first communications module is adapted to receive a wireless message and transmit said message to a further first communications module or to a said control module, and is programmed with at least one respective address identifying modules with which it communicates messages directly when in a communication mode, the method substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.